

MAY 18 2006

Attorney Docket No.: 25341A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Jerry H. C. Lee et al.

Serial No.: 10/826,207

Confirmation No. 1155

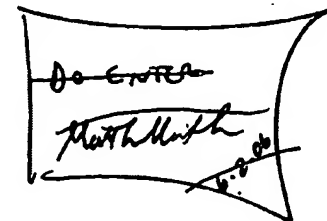
Filed: April 16, 2004

Group Art Unit: 1771

Examiner: M. Matzek

For: Roof Coverings Having Improved
Tear Strength

OK
9/28/06

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTIONCommissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the final Office Action mailed March 28, 2006, Applicant submits the following remarks. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

I. 35 U.S.C. 103(a) Rejections over Miller et al. in view of Marzocchi et al.

Claims 1, 3, 5-8 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miller et al. (US 6,228,785) in view of Marzocchi et al. (US 4,265,563). Independent claim 1 reads as follows:

"1. A roof covering comprising:

a roofing mat formed from fibers of a fiber material, the fibers coated with a sizing; and

an asphalt-based coating material that coats the mat;

the sizing including a sulfur-containing material that bonds to the fiber material, the sulfur-containing material having sulfur groups that form cross-links with the asphalt;